

any sort of rite belonging to any other form or kind of religion, it would not have been extolled as *distinctively Christian*.

3 Turning to John 13: 10, we see that Jesus did not wash their feet on the grounds of cleanliness. For he says, "he that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit; and ye are clean." Here he says they were clean. He did not wash them preparatory to the supper, for they were already sit down to supper. He riseth from (ek) out of the supper, - - - "he came to Peter, Peter refused to accept the service; Jesus says "except I wash thee thou hast no part with me." It was a testing time for Peter. It was a sanctifying work. If sanctify means to "set apart," it meant the setting apart of Peter, the getting on the Lord's side, catching the Lord's spirit. If it meant all that to Peter, may it not mean as much to me, aye, even more. "Go ye, teach—baptize—teaching them *all* things whatsoever I have *commanded* you." Does the promise to be with us, hinge on our acceptance of the "all things" taught us? Is Jesus present with his disciples in the works and ordinances, he commands us to teach and obey? Such is his never failing promise. We believe it. Therefore we teach it, and may we continue to obey it with the spirit of our Master, that it may indicate the sanctification of the hearts of *those who are sanctified*.

1080 W. Polk St., Chicago.

QUIET OBSERVER

J. C. CASSEL

One dislikes to disturb the serenity of the "Quiet Observer," but as he seems to have come from above instead of from below like the rest of us "worms of the dust," one has a desire to cultivate a more intimate acquaintance with him. He rather intimates that he was born good, and is generous enough to concede the same to his fellow creatures. It is a pity that God did not know this, and thus have spared His only begotten Son from the ignominy of coming into the flesh, and suffering and dying for the sins of men.

"Quiet Observer" is however not alone in his good opinion of himself, as I have in mind a "Dunkard" preacher who said he was never converted, that he had always been good; and only a few weeks ago Dr. W. S. Rainsford of New York while addressing a Y. M. C. A. meeting said he was absolutely opposed to conversion, or rebirth, that he had never experienced it, nor any of his family, (I do not doubt his word at all, because his "saloon" tendencies seem to substantiate it), but unless these naturally goody, goody people are differently constituted from the masses of humanity I am inclined to think that they do not know themselves; not a single one of them would want his deeds, and the thoughts and imaginations of his heart thrown upon a screen before an audience of his fellowman, and yet to call them "packs of error" would be awful.

"Quiet Observer" says, "Sin is not natural." With equal propriety one might say that the black skin of a negro was not natural. Presumably Adam was a white man, hence to be "natural" all men ought to be white, but they are not, and not only so, but no human power can make them white. This applies to the spiritual as well as the physical man.

That quotation from Ruskin is very beautiful, but Ruskin was not living among the man eaters of the South Sea Islands when he formulated his conception of man, but among men that had become more or less cultivated by a power foreign to themselves.

That men are the offspring, or sons of God by nature, is the merest assumption, not sustained by the facts. God never had but one Son, who partook of His divine nature. If men ever become the sons of God it is by adoption thru the blood, which paid the penalty of their sin. Men are the handiwork of God, very wonderfully made, of the dust of the earth, naturally inclined to sin, other they would not have fallen at the first temptation; their inherent immortality is even yet an unsettled question among thinking men. Be that as it may, Christ brought immortality to light so that thru grace divine men may now become the sons of God and live eternally, but as long as they are encumbered with their bodies of sin, they will be shortcoming creatures, on standing perfect before God in the wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification of the Lord Jesus Christ who was made sin that they might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

The culture and civilization of our day which is leading many to think that they are almost divine, is simply the reflex of supernaturally saved, spirit-filled men that have lived, and are living in the world, but are not of the world. The sun shines upon the evil as well as the good, and so the spirit of God sent into the world to indwell regenerated souls sheds His life and light in some measure upon the unregenerate as well as the saved. The condition of society where Christ is not is not known, where the Holy Spirit of God does not dwell is abundant proof of this fact.

To call men "packs of error" may not be an elegant way to express it, but it is just as true as the expression is inelegant.

HOW CAN THE PRIMARY AND JUNIOR TEACHERS HELP THE HOME DEPARTMENT?

ALICE HARLEY

No work of the Sabbath school is more important than that of the primary and junior teachers. They have the most delicate and responsible task of all teachers of children, because it is thru *their* work they receive the first Bible knowledge; and it is *painfully* true that many little ones receive their first impressions in spiritual things from the primary teachers; and precious truths stamped on their minds in childhood will never be effaced, but will help create a love for God and his Word. Too often the primary teach-

er becomes discouraged because there are so few visible results from her efforts. How can a building be constructed without a foundation? How can the Intermediate and Bible class teachers build without the foundation laid by the primary and junior teachers; therefore, who should be better equipped and who should be more concerned about doing their work right than the teacher of the beginners?

But a child, who is taught ever so well in the Sabbath school, may be drifted backward by a bad home influence. Much of the education of the child, and the building of its character depends on the parents and those older, with whom the children are daily associated. Many men; and women too; whom the world justly honors, attribute their success, in a great part, to the influence of the home. It is the home that has formed our most famous scholars, our most celebrated heroes, our most devoted missionaries.

Who exercises a greater power in the world than the world? One has truly said, "She who rocks the cradle, rules the world." She has first and most to do with the character, while it is yet in that flexible state to receive its shape. She has to do not only with the *body* in infancy, but with the soul in its childhood. Both mind and heart are in her hands at that period when they take their first start for good or for evil. She has not only to communicate knowledge, but habits. All should realize the sublime idea, that the home is the seminary for eternity, and with every infant born into the home, comes the injunction from God, "Take this child and bring it up for me." It is one of God's own children by creation, sent to be trained up in the way he should go, that is,—"in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Those parents who neglect the *religious* education of the children, whatever else they impart, are more guilty than Herod. He slew the children of *others*, they their own. He slew only the *body*, they the soul. He slew them by hired assassins, they slay them themselves. We shudder at the cruelties of those who sacrificed their babes to Moloch, but how much more dreadful an immolation do they practice, who offer up their sons and daughters to satan by neglecting their religious education, and having them to grow up in ignorance of God, and of his Word. In too many, so called Christian homes, the family altar is neglected.

Once our fathers had few books, no newspapers, no facilities for communication with the world; and the Bible and Pilgrims Progress were almost the only works accessible among the people. Then the Bible had the first place in the home, but to day the children are growing up ignorant of even the Bible Stories which were once the treasures of childhood, to say nothing of its great truths. The Bible has been dethroned and given its place to the newspaper, the magazine, the novel, and in very negligent families, often to demoralizing and destructive fiction. This fact is a menacing one.